

ABSTRACT

Disposed is a contaminant recovery receptacle (40) which is connected, through an inflow pipe (42) and an outflow pipe (43), to the suction side of a compressor (21).

- 5 The inflow pipe (42) has an exit end which opens towards the inner bottom of the recovery receptacle (40). The outflow pipe (43) has an entrance end which is situated above the exit end of the inflow pipe (42) in the recovery receptacle (40). Firstly, a preliminary operation is carried out which causes refrigerant to circulate in a refrigerant circuit (10) for a predetermined length of time so that gas-liquid two-phase refrigerant flows into the
- 10 recovery receptacle (40). Thereafter, a recovery operation is carried out, which causes refrigerant to circulate in the refrigerant circuit (10) so that gas refrigerant flows into the recovery receptacle (40). As a result, contaminants are recovered in the recovery receptacle (40).